Where the moose roam

The appearance of two of the large animals in the Parkridge area Wednesday marked the latest in a continuing trend PAGE 2

NIK SKYWALKER

ON THE EVE OF HIS DEATH-DEFYING STUNT OVER NIAGARA FALLS, NIK WALLENDA TELLS METRO HE BELIEVES HE'S SURROUNDED BY 'GUARDIAN ANGELS' PAGE 6

SASKATOON metro®

Thursday, June 14, 2012

News worth sharing.

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The B.C. Lions' Courtney Taylor, left, gets his hand in the face of the Saskatchewan Roughriders' Terrell Maze after Maze knocked down a pass intended for Taylor during the first half of a pre-season CFL football game in Vancouver on Wednesday. The Lions won 44-10. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lions whip Riders in pre-season

CFL action. B.C. Lions roll over Saskatchewan Roughriders 44-10 in first game of the pre-season for both teams

Backup quarterback Mike Reilly threw for three touchdowns as the B.C. Lions thumped the Saskatchewan Roughriders 44-10 in CFL pre-season action Wednesday night.

Reilly, a 27-year-old Kennewick, Wash., native who is entering his third season with the Lions, completed 16 of 24 passes for 189 yards in two quarters of action. He also ran for 58 yards on seven carries.

A strong B.C. defence rendered four Saskatchewan quarterbacks mainly ineffective.

It was the first game of the pre-season for both clubs. The Lions were looking for a strong burst from the gate as part of a bid to avoid another 0-5 start that befell them before they completed a late-season surge and won the 2011 Grey Cup.

Both B.C.'s Mike Benevides and Saskatchewan's Corey Chamblin worked the sidelines as head coaches in a CFL game for the first time. Benevides replaced Wally Buono, who relinquished his coaching duties in December following a 22-year tenure with the Lions and Calgary, to focus on his general manager duties. He has also received a vice-president title.

Chamblin joined the Roughriders from Hamilton, where he served as defensive co-ordinator last season. He took over from Ken Miller, who retired following the 2011 campaign after replacing Greg Marshall in mid-season.

The Lions began the game with a strong drive as Travis Lulay completed four of his first six passes while marching them on 10 plays for 56 yards that resulted in a 20-yard field goal by Paul McCallum.

McCallum added another three-pointer with less than two minutes left in the first quarter. The points were set up by a 30-yard punt return by rookie hopeful Anthony Stewart from near midfield to the Saskatchewan 20-yard line.

The Riders didn't find the end zone until there were just under five minutes remaining in the game when Drew Willy, Saskatchewan's fourth quarterback, tossed a three-yard touchdown pass to Jason Cherry.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cutting-edge carnivores

Fire up the grill this summer and experience some new cuts of meat

PAGE 18

Celebrating dad's big day

Make this year's Father's Day extra special. Metro shows you how in today's paper

PAGES 19 & 20

1

NEWS

On the web

Making fun out of fleeing the fires

In Colorado, wildfires have scores of residents fleeing their homes. As they wait out the flames, some are trying to keep up spirits by way of humour and charity. Watch at metronews.ca.

Saving a century-old battleship

Crews in LaPorte, Texas, worked around the clock to remove dozens of gallons of oil-laced water that has caused a 100-year-old battleship, which was used in both world wars, to list. Watch at metronews.ca.

Mobile news

They live on your skin, up your nose, in your gut — a universe of bacteria, fungi and other microbes that if weighed together would tip the scales at a few pounds. Scan the code to read about the map scientists have created outlining the microscopic critters living in and around us.

An officer with the Saskatoon Police Service checks up on one of the sedated moose on Wednesday. The pair were to be transported to a safe place out of the city, a conservation officer said. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

More moose loose in Saskatoon

Wildlife. Pair spotted 'lying down in the middle of the ball field' in Parkside

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The phrase "the moose is loose" is being used rather more loosely these days as Saskatoon saw two more of the large animals in the Parkridge area on Wednesday.

Rich Hildebrand, a conservation officer with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment, says the department first received reports of two moose roaming the area in the early hours of the day.

"There were a couple of moose in the west side of the city, and it sounds like it was about 6 a.m. when they were spotted," Hildebrand said. "I understand they were lying down in the middle of the ball field, but there was no cover to really get close."

He said officers tried before midday to tranquillize the animals, but were unsuccessful. Later attempts hit their mark as the moose were sedated. They were being transported to a safe habitat outside the city, Hildebrand said, noting the size of the animals does pose a safety concern for traffic and pedestrians.

"They're a wild animal, and they can be up to 1,000 pounds," he said. "It's a big animal, and if they start getting into the backyards where they're around people or kids, and if they feel cornered, they may bull to try and get out of the area."

Rob Tether, a wildlife biologist with the Ministry of Environment, says in a typical year, six to 10 moose wander into Regina or Saskatoon.

"For some reason … this year over a shorter period, we seem to be having these doubling up," Tether said. "So we'll see if the trend continues or (whether) it stops and we'll end up with our regular of six or eight moose."

Tether says there has been a gradual rise in the moose population, but that's not why they're heading into the cities.

"The actual density, or the number of moose per square kilometre, is still extremely low in the south," he said. "It's just that they happen to be congregated a little bit more, and every time we get an incident it looks like there's lots of moose."

If you spot a moose, wildlife experts advise you to remain in your home or vehicle and contact Saskatchewan Conservation at 1-800-667-7561.

Drowning. Dead man was SIAST student: Officials

The man who drowned at the Harry Bailey Aquatic Centre last Friday was new to the city, say people who knew him.

Muhammad Naqash Ali, 27, was also a student at the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST), the school confirmed this week.

Ali had been attending SIAST since May 1.

On Tuesday, the school said counsellors are on hand to help students deal with the loss.

"We've been doing group counselling for the entire class and the faculty, but if individuals want to speak to the counsellor a little bit more, individual appointments were being made available," said Gerry Bonsal, director of the SIAST Kelsey Campus.

He said people deal with grief and loss in their own way, "especially when it's sudden. Just having someone to speak to about it and being able to be guided through the whole acceptance, grieving process, helps people handle it better."

Bonsal said even though Ali was a new student and "wasn't as well known as some of the other students," his death still had an impact at SIAST. "Any time one of our students — or a staff member — is met with a very unfortunate death, it's always a shock."

Muhammad Naqash Ali drowned at the Harry Bailey Aquatic Centre last week. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

Ali was taking a class on language introduction for newcomers at the school.

MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

Mystery solved

Man in time capsule was Saskatchewan surveyor

The mystery of a man whose picture was found in a century-old time capsule encased in the wall of the provincial legislature has been solved. His name was Franklin Joseph Robinson. Robinson's granddaughter, Pat Malicki, identified him after seeing the photo in the news.

Robinson
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Malicki, of Windsor, Ont., says Robinson was a surveyor who mapped the boundaries for Saskatchewan and oversaw construction of the legislature. She says she doesn't know how his picture ended up in the time capsule, but she guesses he put it in as a joke.

The photo was found when the capsule was opened in December to mark the building's 100th anniversary. There was no name on the photo and it wasn't on the list of the time capsule's contents.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wily animal got away

Coyote spotted near city limits

A female coyote was spotted at the off-leash dog run north of Hampton Village Wednesday. There have been no physical encounters, but the city recommends dog owners avoid the area until pest management can remove and relocate the animal.

Residents are reminded never to approach a coyote and back away slowly if they encounter one. Sightings should be reported to pest management. METRO

Recruiting rural nurses

Nurses sign new health deal

Saskatchewan nurses, the government and health regions have signed a deal they say will improve health care. The two-year agreement is aimed at retaining and recruiting nurses, especially in rural and northern communities. Health Minister Dustin Duncan says the shortage of nurses is not as critical as it was, but the number of nurses nearing retirement could pose a challenge.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Def3 hits it big in Van City's hip-hop scene

Leisure Gang. Hip-hop artist has joined respected collective's latest project

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If Regina hip-hop artist Def3 has learned anything in the rap game, it's that if's and but's don't amount to bucks.

Def3, whose real name is Danny Fernandez, took a risk a year ago when he moved to Vancouver to continue pursuing rap. Leaving behind a legion of fans on the Prairies, Fernandez clawed his way into the West Coast's hip-hop scene.

His dedication has paid off. Fernandez was recently added to the respected Vancouver-based hip-hop collective Sweatshop Union's new project, called Leisure Gang. The group features Sweatshop's five members, as well as DJ Ray Black and Fernandez.

"It's great and I'm happy to be part of the show," said Fernandez.

"We have a lot of fun on the road and feed off each other's energy on and off stage. We've spent the last seven months touring North America and it has been amazing. It has opened up a lot of new markets for me. I'm really looking forward to the future and am very excited to have another solid family to build with."

Sweatshop Union is one of Canada's undisputed hip-hop heavyweights and the socially conscious group has even found commercial appeal through fans who don't normally listen to hip-hop.

An emcee, DJ, professional graffiti artist and talented skateboarder, Fernandez is the embodiment of everything that's hip-hop culture. He's excited for his Prairie homecoming and a stint of Sweatshop and Leisure Gang shows.

"I'm hyped to come back to Saskatoon with the crew. It's always great to see my Side Road family, as well," he added.

Sweatshop Union rapper Marmalade is happy to be working with Fernandez.

"Danny's a big part of things. We've been like a family for years and having guys step up and fit into that family is key," he said.

Fernandez performs alongside Sweatshop Union at Scratch Night Club in Saskatoon on June 14 and can also be heard on the new Leisure Gang digital EP out July 1.

New beats

Rebranding Sweatshop Union:

- Sweatshop Union's manager, Brian Frendricks, said the group has been searching for an alternative way to brand themselves. Leisure Gang was the answer.
- "It's about redefining themselves. Leisure Gang is about party-rock hip hop and promoting having a good time. It's still about love, peace and harmony that Sweatshop has always been about, but less political than before. They've got new influences in music they didn't used to have — there's a lot more electronic and dubstep."

Def3 kicks knowledge on the mic alongside rap colleagues Factor and Moka Only, not pictured, during a set at Louis in Saskatoon in 2010. ROBBIE DAVIS/CONTRIBUTED

Summer sport. Row, row, row my board

A new water sport is infiltrating Saskatoon's South Saskatchewan River.

Paddleboarding has drawn both enthusiasts and curious residents alike to the shores.

Like its name suggests, paddleboarding entails the use of a paddle to propel oneself across a water surface on a large board. Using a board similar in size to that of a surfboard, the rider stands up to paddle.

Jared Kroger, a local paddleboarder, has seen the sport grow considerably in Saskatoon in the last five years.

"It's great because you can do so many things on the board on a flat surface. You can paddle and stand up, you can kneel or you can lie down on the board. It gives you that sensation of surfing without actually being on a wave," said Kroger.

Kroger is an employee at Escape Sports, the first Saskatoon outlet to sell the boards. Escape also provides lessons and rentals.

Paddleboarding began around the 1930s. Saskatoon's version is less intense than those experiences that involve braving rapids or big ocean waves, but river paddleboarding allows for more creativity.

Saskatoon boarders have begun incorporating yoga routines while paddling.

"It definitely adds a whole other element of balance to yoga."

Escape will be offering a demo to the public in the coming weeks. Visit Escape Sports' Facebook page for more information. DORIAN GEIGER/METRO

Marcus Storey offers lessons to a rookie paddleboarder. LOUIS CHRIST/CONTRIBUTED

Laundry upgrade? Make mine a double!
With Downy Unstopables you get fresh, feisty scents that last. With Ultra Downy you get silky softness. So up your laundry with Downy!
ULTRA Downy
See Amy upgrade more things at youtube.com/downy
© 2012 P&G

Teacher showed his students vile body-parts case video

Montreal. High school swiftly suspends man but students defend him, saying they asked him to play it

A teacher has been suspended by a Montreal school for showing Grade 10 students the infamous video that shows a killing allegedly committed by Luka Rocco Magnotta.

The teacher showed the students the grotesque scenes on June 4 and was immediately suspended that afternoon — with pay.

The video is so disturbing that even seasoned detectives who watched it were troubled by the contents, Montreal police say.

Staff at Cavelier-De LaSalle High School in Montreal's west end say they quickly informed the students that a team of psychologists was available to deal with any problems they had from watching the video.

"We condemn with one voice the actions of the teacher," the school board said Wednesday.

"The incident is being taken very seriously."

Students are defending the popular young teacher — who one described as being in his 20s.

Another student said it was the kids who asked him to play the video. She said the teacher was hesitant. A few children in the class also objected.

"He's a very good teacher," declared 17-year-old Maude Aubin-Boivin, adding: "Honestly, his courses are super fun. He's a teacher who knows his job."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"For sure, at the beginning I found it tough. But I wasn't traumatized or anything. We see so much these days on TV."
Maude Aubin-Boivin, 17

Students speak to reporters at Cavelier-De LaSalle High School Wednesday. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police confirm it

DNA shows Lin's body parts were mailed to B.C.

Montreal police said Wednesday that DNA results have confirmed the two body parts mailed to Vancouver last week belong to student Jun Lin.

Luka Rocco Magnotta, a porn actor, is suspected of killing and dismembering Lin before sending some of his body parts to Canadian political parties and schools.

In Berlin, a court has ordered Magnotta to be held in pre-extradition custody as his likely return to Canada edges closer.

Magnotta, 29, fled to Europe and was captured at an Internet café in Berlin.

He has said he won't fight extradition.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Relatives demanding ban on handguns

Gun-control advocates took aim at handguns Wednesday, calling for a national ban of the weapons they said are used only for violence.

Relatives of a Toronto man killed in a double shooting four years ago urged the Harper government to shift from defending long guns — the focus of a heated political and now legal battle — to tackling what they consider "a weapon of war."

Family members of Oliver Martin, who died at 25, said there is no reason for anyone to carry handguns, arguing that unlike long guns, the smaller firearms serve no legitimate purpose.

"No one should have the right to own a handgun except the police," said Susan Martin, speaking at a news conference on the anniversary of her son's death.

"Handguns are easy to hide and are used, with few exceptions, for one purpose only: To wound or kill someone," she said.

Martin and his friend Dylan Ellis, 26, were shot dead in a parked SUV in Toronto's entertainment district on June 13, 2008. The killing has so far remained unsolved.

A deadly shooting rampage at Toronto's Eaton Centre this month once again cast a spotlight on gun violence in the city, and several officials joined in on Wednesday's call for a crackdown on firearms.

Toronto Coun. Adam Vaughan said plans to improve public safety — including a proposal to outlaw the sale, storage and use of munitions in his city — were under discussion before the attack that killed two people and injured five others.

"I wish we didn't need a recent example to convince anybody that action is needed," he said.

"There is no rational reason to have a bullet in a crowded city, a friendly neighbourhood or a shopping mall," he said.

Handguns are considered restricted or prohibited weapons under current federal law, meaning they must be registered by their owner. Anyone looking to purchase one must also obtain a licence.

Many have sought to get rid of them altogether, including a 2005 bid by then-Liberal leader Paul Martin.

Toronto cracked down on shooting ranges under former mayor David Miller, who then launched an unsuccessful petition to prohibit handguns across the country.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

20 months

Man jailed for filming friends' sex attack

A 32-year-old Winnipeg man has been sentenced to 20 months in jail for videotaping his friends sexually assaulting an unconscious woman.

Court heard she was passed out when a pair of men groped her for about 15 minutes while Jeffrey Tongol filmed.

The 22-year-old woman had no idea she had been attacked until a VHS tape was turned over to police in 2007. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Six-year agony

Duo accused of torturing, starving captive girl

A Bosnian man and his girlfriend have been charged with imprisoning and torturing a German teenager for more than six years.

Tuzla prosecutor's office aide Admir Arnautovic said Milenko Marinkovic, 52, and Slavojka Marinkovic, 45, have been indicted.

According to the indictment, the 19-year-old girl was "held captive, starved, prevented from going to school and meeting other people and otherwise physically and mentally tortured."

The couple were arrested in May at their home in Karavlasi.

Villagers said they had treated the girl like a slave, beaten her, forced her to sleep and eat with pigs, and whipped her while pulling a horse cart.

The girl is a daughter of Marinkovic's legitimate wife, 54-year-old German woman Kristina Siegner, who still lives in the village and has denied the accusations.

Arnautovic said "for the moment" the girl's mother is considered a witness in the case and must remain in Bosnia.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tsunami fallout

Japanese school gets its wayward basketball back

A basketball washed away in last year's tsunami has been reunited with students at a school in Japan.

The basketball was found on a beach near Craig, Alaska. It had the words "Kesen chu," short for Kesennuma Middle School, printed on it.

Alaskans sent back the ball with words of encouragement for the Japanese students, half of whom are in temporary housing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Single mom

Blogger starts a 'fuzz' with her tweets about Jews

A social-media experiment in Sweden raised eyebrows around the world when one of the curators made offensive comments about Jews.

A 27-year-old Swedish blogger, who describes herself as "a single and low-educated mother," took over as the main curator of @Sweden this week and quickly found herself in the middle of a controversy over some of her tweets.

The @Sweden Twitter project is an initiative by the Swedish Institute and VisitSweden to get people interested in all things Swedish.

In between Sonja Abrahamsson's musings about her life, she posted a series of tweets about Jewish people.

In one, she wrote: "Whats the fuzz with jews. You can't even see if a person is a jew, unless you see their penises, and even if you do, you can't be sure!?"

Another tweet read: "@Sweden June 12, 2012 12:43 In nazi German they even had to sew stars on their sleeves. If they didn't, they could never now who was a jew and who was not a jew." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Rae won't run for Liberal leadership

Parliament Hill. Party race now seems wide open as interim chief steps aside

Bob Rae won't seek the permanent leadership of the federal Liberals because it's better for the party, the interim leader said Wednesday, setting the stage for a wide-open race and renewing the tantalizing prospect of a Justin Trudeau candidacy.

Sources say the 63-year-old Rae — who will stay on as interim leader until a replacement is chosen — decided against running primarily because, despite popularity among caucus members, he still doesn't have the broad support of the party's rank and file.

"It hasn't been an easy decision, (but) it's a decision I feel very comfortable with," Rae said after breaking the news to his caucus behind closed doors. "For me, it was a question of deciding how I could do the best thing for the health of the Liberal party."

Rae's controversial tenure as Ontario NDP premier from 1990 to 1995 — marred by a deep recession, broken campaign promises and acrimonious relations with the province's unions — has long been cited as one of the principal reasons he struggled to win Liberal support. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Free-for-all

- Many are looking to Justin Trudeau to save the party, but Trudeau has said he's not interested in running.
- MPs Marc Garneau (Que.), David McGuinty (Ont.), Joyce Murray (B.C.) and Dominic LeBlanc (N.B.) are said to be thinking about running.

Interim Liberal Leader Bob Rae speaks to reporters in the foyer of the House of Commons on Wednesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trafficking ring. Mother of alleged victim recalls daughter's horror

The mother of an alleged victim in an Ottawa teen human-trafficking case says her daughter is terrified.

The girl was robbed, beaten up, held for hours, forced into an encounter with a john and threatened repeatedly with having her throat slit, she said.

The woman, whose name cannot be published so as not to identify her daughter, said she confronted one of the suspected teen pimps and her mother to retrieve her daughter's belongings "and get her power back."

"She beat my daughter mercilessly in the face and the nose, kept punching her over and over again," she alleged of one of the accused.

Two 15-year-old girls have been charged in connection with the case. A third suspect, aged 17, is still being sought. Police say they lured three girls from the ages of 13 to 17 to a home by posting messages on social-media websites. The three victims were then allegedly forced to go to another location and perform sexual acts on men.

The alleged victim's mother, who said her daughter was held for hours but escaped, is upset that the third suspect has not been found and that police are unable to release her name publicly in order to locate her.

"My daughter was terrified. She blocked the door with chairs and said, 'They're going to come back and slit my throat.' You have no idea of the terror," she said.

The daughter is apparently afraid of retribution after her mother contacted police and confronted the accused teen's mother. The girl's belongings were found in two of the accused girls' homes, her mother said. JESSICA SMITH/METRO IN OTTAWA

Ottawa

15-year-old in custody

A 15-year-old girl charged in connection with the Ottawa human-trafficking and prostitution ring has been remanded in custody after a brief court appearance Wednesday.

The girl was formally charged with 18 counts in connection with three incidents involving three victims.

The charges include human trafficking, abduction and sexual assault. She will be back in court Monday to have a date set for a bail hearing. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Winnipeg pride

Rob Lowe takes flack for 'hellhole' comment

It seems hell hath no fury like a city that feels it's been called a hellhole by a Hollywood actor.

Rob Lowe, in Winnipeg to shoot a made-for-TV movie, has stirred up anger after writing a message on Twitter Tuesday night that ended with the hashtag "#Trappedinahellhole".

Lowe was complaining about how he was watching the NBA playoffs on TV when the station interrupted the game for coverage of municipal elections. However, there were no municipal elections in Manitoba Tuesday — Lowe was likely watching a TV station based across the border in Grand Forks, N.D.

Winnipeg residents quickly fired back on Twitter, calling Lowe a jerk, a schmuck and other names.

"You can leave any time," wrote Ken Johnston.

By Wednesday morning, Lowe was tweeting more positive messages about the city, and it was unclear whether the hellhole tag was a reference to Winnipeg or simply the bar he was in. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nik Wallenda: High & mighty

King of the High Wire.
On eve of attempt to cross Niagara Falls, the skywalker talks about faith, family, what's next

KATHY ULLYOTT
For Metro in Toronto

When he was 18, Nik Wallenda had his heart set on becoming a pediatrician.

But just one year later, his family, the legendary Flying Wallendas, was offered a once-in-a-generation opportunity: To re-enact the family's signature stunt, a three-tier, seven-person pyramid on a wire eight metres above the ground. In 1962, the pyramid had collapsed during a show in Detroit and killed two family members, paralyzing another.

Nik was in. And after the triumphant re-creation of the act in 1998, his path was set — on a cable just two fingers wide. This Friday the King of the High Wire will attempt to make history again by walking a wire across the thundering cataract of the Horseshoe Falls. We asked this very public man about some very private moments.

How are you preparing physically as well as mentally for the Niagara Falls skywalk?
I don't have a regular regimen; my workout changes every day depending on my schedule. I always walk several wires and I try to relax and rest. I also try to work in physical activity with my family — we'll play Frisbee, say, where you have to do 10 pushups if you miss a catch. Or catch it with your left hand only. I don't spend as much time with my kids as I'd like, so I try to be creative that way. Mentally, I don't meditate but I spend a lot of time praying, which is a kind of meditation. I'm a born-again Christian so I pray, I talk to God a lot.

Do you think that religion, or belief in a higher power, is necessary for someone in your line of work?
Well, I can say there's no way I would do it without it.

Have you ever had a supernatural experience, on or off the wire?
I wouldn't say so, no. But I do believe that I'm surrounded by guardian angels at all times, whether I'm walking a wire or walking down the street.

What is your greatest dream for your children (Yanni, 14, Amadaos, 11, and Evita, 9)?
That they achieve their goals and dreams. And I like to think that as their father, I am inspiring them to do that. I love a challenge — in taking on Niagara Falls a lot of people said it can't be done, it won't be done. But when someone says to me something can't be done, that's my cue to find a way.

If there was one thing in your life you could go back and change, what would it be?
Honestly, I wouldn't change anything. Yes, I've had great successes and some failures. But the failures, the disappointments all contribute to what I am, where I am today. And I wouldn't change that for anything.

If you could have dinner with one historical figure and ask him/her anything you want, who would that be?
That would have to be my great-grandfather, Karl Wallenda (who brought the family from Germany to America in 1928, and died in a fall from a wire in Puerto Rico in 1978). I was born in 1979 but he clearly was my inspiration. I'd love to ask him about our family, hear the family history, hear his amazing stories.

But if you could ask him just one question?
I'd ask him if he is proud. People tell me he would be honoured by what I've accomplished, but I'd love to ask him how he feels, myself.

What happens after Niagara Falls?
I want to be a father and a husband for awhile. I've been consumed with this for six months — two years, really — and I really feel I've neglected my family. So I just want to spend time with them.

On the web
To view a live feed of the walk, go to metronews.ca

RANDY RISLING/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE; TOP PHOTO: HARRY SCULL JR./THE BUFFALO NEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

High in the sky

Daredevil legacy honoured

Nik Wallenda, 33, is a high-wire artist and acrobat. He hails from a family of daredevils and is a direct descendant of Karl Wallenda — founder of the Flying Wallendas. METRO

Bike on a wire

Riding to a record

Wallenda holds the Guinness Book of Records' world record for longest and highest bicycle ride on a high-wire after a live broadcast of the Today show on NBC. Last year, he completed the high-wire crossing that killed his great-grandfather, Karl. METRO

Forbidden zone

Century-long ban broken

Attempting to cross Niagara Falls on a high wire has been forbidden for the last 100 years. ABC is insisting that Wallenda wear a safety harness — something the high-wire artist initially refused to do. METRO

Steeling the thunder

$1.3M

The cost of the seven-tonne steel wire, installation, permits, security, travel and marketing is estimated at about $1.3 million. The TV deal with ABC will offset some of the cost.

Parking it

Keeping things spick at the span

Other costs include a $50,000 letter of credit to the Niagara Parks Commission, which would be used only in the event of a water rescue, and a $25,000 deposit to U.S. authorities to ensure the Niagara Falls park is restored to its original condition. METRO

At the brink

Laying it on 1,800 feet of line

Wallenda plans to start on the American side and walk 1,800 feet across the falls at 200 feet above the gorge bottom. If successful, he will be the first to cross over the brink of the famous falls. METRO

Forest boy keeps all of Germany guessing

Mystery. He says his mother died and he buried his father, but he doesn't know his real name

Mystery boy Ray now uses a laptop and cellphone and goes to school. But who is he? CONTRIBUTED

Who is Ray? That's the question all Germany is asking.

Ray is an English-speaking teenage boy who wandered into Berlin nine months ago, saying he had been living for the last five years in the forest with his father.

But "there are many question marks," police spokesperson Thomas Neuendorf said.

The boy told authorities his father called him "Ray" and that he was born June 20, 1994, but claims not to know his last name or where he's from.

He said his mother, Doreen, died in a car accident when he was 12 and after that he and his father, Ryan, took to the forest.

He said they wandered using maps and a compass, staying in tents or caves overnight.

He told authorities that after his father died in August 2011, he buried him in the forest and then walked five days north before ending up in Berlin, and showed up at city hall.

Police released a photo of Ray on Wednesday. "We have checked his DNA against all missing-person reports and sent the data to Interpol so they can check it internationally," Neuendorf said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hubby's a bit of a giggle

Those royals are certainly high-flyers. Here, Prince William throws a foam javelin skyward, sparking a giggle from his wife Kate, Duchess of Cambridge. It happened at a children's sports event at Vernon Park in Nottingham, England, Wednesday. PHIL NOBLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CEO rebels

Scouts official raps policy on gays

A high-profile member of the Boy Scouts of America's governing board says he doesn't support the Scouts' policy of excluding gays and will work from within to seek a change.

Ernst & Young CEO James Turley, whose giant accounting firm has welcomed gays and lesbians in its own workforce, becomes the first member of the Scouts' executive board known to publicly disapprove of the policy.

"I support the meaningful work of the Boy Scouts in preparing young people for adventure, leadership, learning and service," Turley said. "However the membership policy is not one I would personally endorse."

The Boy Scouts responded Wednesday, saying: "We believe that good people can personally disagree on this topic and still work together."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

$17-million case

Amish defrauded, man sent to jail

A federal judge in Ohio has sentenced a man to six-and-a-half years in prison for defrauding fellow Amish in 29 states out of nearly $17 million US.

Monroe Beachy, 78, pleaded guilty to mail fraud in a scheme the government says defrauded nearly 2,700 people and entities.

Beachy is a member of an Amish church about 96 kilometres south of Cleveland where he operated an investment business that filed for bankruptcy protection two years ago.

Investigators say Beachy promised to put the investors' money into safer securities.

But instead he used it for higher-risk investments.

It's uncommon for the Amish to take their disputes public. The deeply traditional religious group shuns most modern advances, including electrical appliances.

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Rohingya Muslims, who fled Myanmar to Bangladesh to escape religious violence, sit in a boat after being intercepted crossing the Naf River by border authorities in Taknaf, Bangladesh, Wednesday. ANURUP TITU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tense calm emerges after Myanmar unrest

Buddhists versus Muslims. Violence triggered by rape and murder of Buddhist woman, allegedly by 3 Muslims

Heavy rain brought an uneasy calm in western Myanmar on Wednesday after five days of sectarian strife, though residents were too fearful to sleep and faced food shortages.

The conflict pitting ethnic Rakhine Buddhists against stateless Rohingya Muslims in coastal Rakhine state has caused at least 21 deaths and more than 1,600 homes have been torched in some of the worst sectarian unrest recorded in Myanmar in years.

Quoted

"It is quiet here this morning but life has not returned to normal. We live in fear every day and night."

Resident San Shwe, recounting unconfirmed rumours that authorities had seized weapons caches from Muslim villagers.

An Associated Press journalist in the state capital, Sittwe, confirmed it was calm, with no signs of the scattered fires seen in recent days. Soldiers and police patrolled and warned people by loudspeaker to abide the existing state of emergency, which gives the military full authority over administrative and security functions in Rakhine.

Fears of renewed violence halted bus and ferry deliveries of food and other cargo from Yangon to Sittwe, limiting supplies and sending prices skyrocketing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Australia-bound?

Suspected illegal migrants arrested

Eighty people, including Sri Lankans, Afghans and Indians who allegedly intended to migrate illegally to Australia, were arrested in Sri Lanka, officials said Wednesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Israeli naval raid

Report slams PM

An Israeli government report slammed Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's decisions regarding a Gaza-bound ship raid as "flawed."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Islamist riots. Tunisia leaders condemn extremists after attacks

Tunisia's leaders on Wednesday condemned extremists after days of riots by radical Islamists left one man dead, injured 62 security personnel and led to more than 160 arrests.

Ultraconservative Islamists known as Salafis attacked an art gallery Sunday in a Tunis suburb for an exhibition they said insulted Islam. After security forces dispersed them with tear gas, gangs attacked police stations around the country over the next few days.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A firefighter tries to extinguish a burning tire after it was set on fire by radical Islamists during overnight riots near Tunis, Tunisia, Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada being hit by Dutch Disease: Report

Economic analysis. Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development traces the steep decline of manufacturing

The OECD is weighing in on the controversy surrounding whether Canada is suffering from an economic condition known as Dutch Disease, and it's qualified answer is yes.

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development warns in a report released Wednesday that the run-up in commodity prices is leading to an uneven economy in Canada.

Resource-rich provinces such as Alberta, Saskatchewan and Newfoundland have prospered, while others have fallen behind, in part because a commodity boom has strengthened the Canadian dollar, hurting exchange-sensitive sectors such as manufacturing and tourism.

A similar problem occurred in the Netherlands after its North Sea oil fields created a new source of resource wealth and contributed to the hollowing out of the manufacturing sector there, hence the term Dutch Disease.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mixed reactions

The analysis mirrors that of NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair, who has been accused of pitting regions against each other for political purposes.

- Last month, the Pembina Institute said what it called "oilsands fever" has spread benefits unevenly across the country and could be hiding economic turmoil down the road.
- A second report from the Macdonald-Laurier Institute argued that all provinces benefit from the commodity boom.

China's consumer market growing

Customers look at displays of silk dresses at a shop in Shanghai on Wednesday. Chinese consumers can afford to splash out more on higher-quality products, but also expect better value for money than in the past, according to a study by the American Chamber of Commerce. China's consumer market is forecast to become the second largest in the world after the U.S. by 2015. Both Chinese and foreign companies are struggling to keep up as the market evolves, said the report, released Wednesday. For companies like Kraft Foods Inc. and PepsiCo. Inc., that means tailoring products to suit local tastes while leveraging the company's global brand name. Kraft spent much time researching Shanghai consumers, going into their homes, to understand their preferences in developing a branding strategy for its famous Chips Ahoy and Oreo cookies, said Haiyan Wang, chief marketing officer for Kraft Foods China. EUGENE HOSHIKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Retail

Dollarama rolling out $3 items

Dollarama Inc. plans to gradually introduce some non-grocery items priced as high as $3 this summer, the Montreal-based discount retailer announced Wednesday along with a better-than-expected profit.

Larry Rossy, Dollarama's chairman and chief executive, said customers have responded well to the addition of items that are priced above $1 — although the previous limit was $2. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 97.16¢ US (+0.24¢)

TSX 11,497.87 (+0.58)

OIL $82.62 US (-70¢)

GOLD $1,619.40 US (+$5.60)

Natural gas: $2.185 US (-4.7¢)
Dow Jones: 12,496.38 (-77.42)

Speech. Free trade the way to go: Minister

Free and open trade, rather than protectionism, is the best way to secure a global recovery and create jobs, International Trade Minister Ed Fast told a Montreal economic conference Wednesday.

In a speech to the International Economic Forum of the Americas, Fast said Canada must improve its access to growing markets around the world, particularly in Latin America and the Asia-Pacific region.

Canada's government also hopes to conclude the world's largest free-trade agreement with the European Union by the end of this year, he added.

Fast said people who deny the benefits of trade wilfully ignore the foundation of Canadian prosperity and its history.

"At its very heart, the anti-trade opposition lacks faith that Canada can succeed in the global economy," Fast told delegates at the 18th annual Conference of Montreal.

"They represent a Canada that cowers in the face of competition. A Canada that lacks confidence."

Fast said they used "fear-mongering and falsehood" when they attempted to block the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement, the follow-up NAFTA agreement that added Mexico to the mix, and now Canada's negotiations with the European Union.

Fast said Wednesday that Canadian workers and businesses have gained preferred access and a real competitive advantage in markets around the world.

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metro

HOW I LEARNED TO STOP WORRYING AND LOVE THE GAME

HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca/hesays

North Americans have finally accepted the Beautiful Game. When I watched my first World Cup in 1990, people condemned soccer as boring and unmanly and just generally this European thing we didn't understand, like men in beach thongs.

Now, as the Euro plays out, even those who don't love it have come to accept its value. It's like when a passively xenophobic guy in a small town meets his first immigrant. "Hey," he says, "that soccer guy is all right."

Soccer and I got off to rocky start. I remember watching 22 years ago and thinking that each game had the same excitement level as CPAC.

Stop the excitement!

"I thought maybe there was an applause meter that let refs know when the game was getting too interesting."

But then there would be a long pass, the announcer's voice would rise and, at long last, the cry known around the world would ring out across the continents: Offside!

My understanding of the rule then was that whenever anything exciting was about to happen, the whistle would blow. I thought maybe there was an applause meter that let refs know when the game was getting too interesting.

I also had a problem with diving — not that players did it, but that they were so bad at it.

Soccer players are terrible actors. A player will collapse to the pitch like he's stepped on a land mine, even though replays show the opposing player had only made eye contact. That I can accept, but the game loses me when the diver rolls back and forth like he's kneading a patch of dough. No truly injured person in the history of the world has ever rolled back and forth violently. Nobody who's been in a car accident thinks, "Better roll it out."

And of course I hated hooligans. Even hated the name, which makes the most despicable people in the world sound like loveable scamps.

But I've since come around, if only because North America knows how to screw up their sports, too.

If I still find the occasional soccer game boring, I need only think of what it was like to watch this year's NHL playoffs, which in the final two rounds were an amazing display of shot-blocking, icings and offsides that the world had not witnessed the likes of since mid-January.

If I consider diving unsportsmanlike, I can think of how many people shrug off baseball players cheating their way right into the record books.

And if I wish to condemn rioters and thugs (and I do), I can also note how often North American sporting events seem to be celebrated with the ceremonial Burning of the Cars.

So now when the World Cup and the Euro roll around, I latch on to a team or two and drink in the colourful costumes, bicycle kicks, celebration runs and the rising crescendo of the soccer chant.

Frankly, any sport that can get 80,000 fans in one place without any of them singing YMCA is all right by me.

Danish fans soak up the atmosphere during a Euro 2012 match between Denmark and Portugal at Arena Lviv Wednesday in Lviv, Ukraine.
ALEX LIVESEY/GETTY IMAGES

Highs and lows at Euro 2012

MARTIN ROSE/GETTY IMAGES

Action

Portugal wins, Russian fans rage

A Portugal fan enjoys the pre-game atmosphere during a Euro 2012 match between Denmark and Portugal at Arena Lviv on Wednesday in Lviv, Ukraine.

Portugal went on to beat Denmark 3-2.

But the tournament has not been without its fair share of controversy.

Russia could be deducted six points in its qualifying group for the next European Championship if its fans turn violent again at Euro 2012.

UEFA fined the Russian soccer association $150,000 US on Wednesday because its fans attacked stadium stewards at a match last week in Poland. UEFA also gave the federation a suspended six-point deduction for a repeat offence.

Within hours of the announcement, UEFA charged Russia with further offences relating to its fans' behaviour inside the National Stadium during the match against Poland on Tuesday in Warsaw. Russian fans were also filmed fighting with stadium staff in Wroclaw after a 4-1 win last Friday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Baring it all

Croatia's culture ministry has told an employee to stop revealing her bare breasts at European Championship matches.

- Topless Internet photos of Jelena Miksa, a clerk at the culture ministry, and a female family member have been a hit on social networks and local media as they celebrated Croatia's 3-1 victory over Ireland on Sunday in Poznan, Poland.
- The women said they did it in support of the team.

Offside

"We don't want to sound discourteous — we've always been willing to take on any type of subject — but we'll return to that when we're calmer, not on the eve of a key match."

Italy coach Cesare Prandelli, responding to Italy player Antonio Cassano's remark on gay footballers. Cassano said Tuesday that he hopes there are no homosexual players on the national team at the European Championship, then used a derogatory word to describe gays. Hours later, he issued an apology.

Metropolitan Panel

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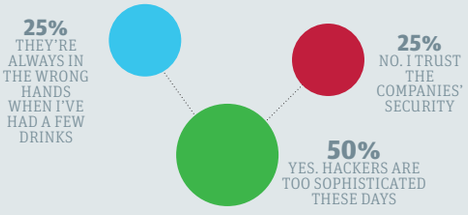
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25%
NO. I TRUST THE COMPANIES' SECURITY
50%
YES. HACKERS ARE TOO SOPHISTICATED THESE DAYS

Twitter

@interupt2: Time to see the green and white again! #ridernation

@Troy_Sudzy: Parkridge is the cool place to hang out. #YXE #Saskatoon

@mlisame: @ggatguelph safe trip home - just got into #Saskatoon looking forward to what promises to be a great #datasummit

@msanmiguel3: Wonderful day (June 12) celebrating Filipino-Canadian Day & 114th Philippine Independence Day in #Saskatoon #yxe

@heebro420: Two moose on the loose this morning in Gigulis park, Saskatoon #yxe #urbanwildlife

@CassKyle: Hey #yxe! Who do I get to visit with/meet at @mosoconf on Thursday and Friday? I'll be the only one with a paper notebook and pen....

metro
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Pi's long journey to big screen not painful for author Martel

Hollywood problems. Martel talks about turning his famous book into something that will be found in theatres everywhere

BACKSTAGE PASS
Simon Hiatt
saskatoon@metronews.ca

In a highly successful literary career that has included novels about a boy stranded on a boat with a tiger and a Holocaust allegory centering on two stuffed animals, Yann Martel has gained a reputation for telling stories that are unlike anyone else's.

So perhaps it should come as no surprise his first experience in the movie making process is another uncommon tale.

"You always hear horror stories about Hollywood, but in my case Hollywood was great," Martel said in an interview in a café near his Saskatoon home. "The producer all along kept me in the loop."

It was a long trip for The Life of Pi from the page to the big screen since the Man Booker prize-winning novel was published in 2001. The rights were sold quickly, but the adaptation sat in limbo as some of the biggest names in the business came and went from the project.

At various times M. Night Shyamalan (The Sixth Sense, Unbreakable) and Alfonso Cuaron (Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, Children of Men) were attached. But it is the Oscar-winning director of Brokeback Mountain, Ang Lee, who has finally brought the epic story of Piscine Molitor Patel to cinematic life, a choice Martel is thrilled with.

"He's a fabulous director. He's very able and sensitive and unbelievably hard-working," said Martel. "So I'm delighted."

Martel downplays his role in the adaptation. He flew to New York City to meet with Lee and read the screenplay twice, offering his suggestions, which he says were taken into consideration. But he also didn't want to interfere too much in the process.

"I'm a novelist, I'm not a screenwriter," said Martel. "I said 'it's your movie, take liberties and make it a good movie.'"

Martel's other contributions include writing a foreward for a book about the making of the movie and pictures of himself from his time in India. The character of the author in Life of Pi, also named Yann Martel in the film, will have his look modelled on the real Martel. And, oh yeah, he's being played by Tobey Maguire.

Martel says he will be somewhat involved in promoting the film before it is released November 21. He is looking forward to the process, as long as it doesn't take away too much from his day job. He's currently working on a three-part novel set in Portugal.

"I'm hoping to help (with promotion), so that might distract me. I definitely want to finish part two by the end of this year and I'm hoping by next summer to have some sort of draft."

The author has lived in Saskatoon since coming here as the Public Library's Writer in Residence a decade ago.

Other work

Martel's other recent high-profile project What's Stephen Harper Reading? ended early last year.

- He sent the Prime Minister's office a different book every two weeks after learning the PM doesn't read a great deal.

Saskatoon-based author Yann Martel is preparing for the release of the film adaptation of his novel The Life of Pi, which hits theatres on Nov. 21 SIMON HIATT FOR METRO

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Scene in brief

Cruise honoured by Friars

Tom Cruise was in Manhattan to collect an award, and, yes, promote a movie. On Tuesday night, the actor received the fourth-ever Friars Club Entertainment Icon Award, placing him in the same company as Douglas Fairbanks, Cary Grant and Frank Sinatra. The evening was a toast, not a roast. Alec Baldwin presided at the Waldorf-Astoria, where speakers included such former co-stars as Cuba Gooding Jr. and Kevin Pollak. Robin Thicke and Corinne Rae Bailey were among the musical performers. Many had stories about working with Cruise and his impact on them. Baldwin joked that any time he finds himself taking on too many tasks at once, he hums the theme from Mission: Impossible.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

AKB48, whose singers are ranked by fans, becomes a hit in Japan; founder trying formula abroad

Colin Farrell fully embraces demands of starring role in Total Recall remake

Summer blockbuster. Rising star and cast had a blast shooting sequel to 1990 sci-fi thriller in Toronto

TREVOR PARKER
scenel@metronews.ca

Colin Farrell stars in Columbia Pictures remake of Total Recall which opens in theatres August 3. COLUMBIA PICTURES

As eager as he may be for audiences to enjoy his work in the upcoming big-budget Total Recall remake, Colin Farrell wants to state upfront that there's one area in which his version wouldn't dare to compete with the 1990 Schwarzenegger original: "I noticed a lack of one-line jokes," he laughs. "No one does one-liners like Arnie!"

The Recall update is set to be a more sober, serious take on the tale of an oblivious man in the near future who tampers with his memories and ends up uncovering a hidden past and personality.

Farrell says he was at first reluctant to leap into a production that encompassed such a humongous scope, one that overran Toronto streets as well as occupying several cavernous soundstages at the city's new Pinewood studio facility while shooting last year.

"It was terrifying," he admits. "I've been quite content creatively, over the last six or seven years, doing films that were smaller in budgetary scale. It scares the s—t out of me, the idea of being in a really, really big film, it really does.

"But I'm open to it. Initially, I responded to the script and I responded to the idea of a man named Quaid who just really didn't know who he was. It brings up the questions: What makes a person what they are? What makes us all? Can you reclaim, can you change? So meeting Len (Wiseman, director) and seeing his concept artwork and the world he was going to create … I came away from meeting him saying, 'I'd really love to do this, I hope I can!'"

Actress Jessica Biel appears in the film as capable and sexy freedom fighter Melina. Of her role, Biel says, "Melina's grown up very much this underground soldier, and this very strong, empowered person."

Farrell and Biel are chatting with members of the media after a lengthy and particularly punishing day of staging Total Recall's extensive zero-gravity simulations. The action saw the pair trussed up by wires and hung upside down for hours at a time while blasting away with futuristic firearms.

"It's actually so physically painful that there's nothing to do but laugh," Biel says. "You just get completely giddy and it gets to a point where you feel like your eyeballs are about to pop out. We've done our best to laugh through it."

Biel goes on to say that she had much more fun working on her fight scene with co-star Kate Beckinsale, who plays the villainous Lori. She found the scene interesting "because (Kate and I) never fight with women. You're always fighting a monster or thug or something. You never fight a beautiful, sinewy long haired woman. I think it'll look really cool and aggressive. The only issue that we had during the fight was that Kate's hair kept getting stuck in my jacket!"

Drunk and on drugs

It's just plain monkey business for Tom Cruise

When Tom Cruise signed on to play fictional hard-rock bad-boy Stacee Jaxx in the musical Rock of Ages, one thing was clear: His role would have to get a lot bigger.

"Why would I have him there if I'm not going to use him?" director Adam Shankman offers. "Using him less would've felt like a stunt, and he would've been underused."

Enter Justin Theroux, one of the film's three credited screenwriters, who previously wrote Tropic Thunder, featuring one of Cruise's more attention-grabbing comedic performances as Hollywood mogul Les Grossman. "The Stacee Jaxx character is very different from the Stacee Jaxx that was onstage," Theroux says, explaining that a lot of the change came from casting Cruise for the role. "It was more sort of a strung-out, druggie, drink-y character. And we basically made him weirder and more fun, we added a monkey who was his best friend, we did all that."

"This is the second time I've gotten to work with Tom, and I love working with him," Theroux says. Theroux admits that comedy in general is still a surprise coming from Cruise. "He doesn't need to do it. He's got such an amazing career as an action star and as a dramatic actor and all of that," he says. "Comedy's not something he really needs to do. But he does, and he's really effective at it because he approaches it like, 'I'm just going to play it straight.'"

With two movies under his belt now writing for the detail-oriented Cruise, Theroux admits he's developed quite a report with the actor.

NED EHRBAR

Director Adam Shankman, from left, Julianne Hough and Diego Boneta talk during the production of New Line Cinema's movie musical Rock of Ages. DAVID JAMES

Smoke and mirrors helps Rock of Ages hit high note

Directing again. Adam Shankman deals with fiscal challenges of taking a Broadway musical to the big screen

NED EHRBAR
scene@metronews.ca

Being beyond-prolific as a producer hasn't left much time for Adam Shankman to devote to his directing career, but the man behind "Hairspray" is back behind the camera for Rock of Ages, a tribute to L.A.'s late-'80s rock scene. Not that bringing the property from Broadway to the screen was necessarily a simple prospect.

How have you been dealing with people finally seeing the finished film?

I've been really nervous about people getting it, and people seem to. The big question mark, of course, was Tom Cruise, and they're in love with him. Without sounding horrifyingly clichéd, in my head it's like I'm saying, "Mission accomplished!"

How was the actual production process for you?

To be completely honest, I had no schedule and I had very little money to make this giant thing. There's a lot of illusion going on in the movie. Russell (Brand) and Alec (Baldwin) were only shooting for two and a half weeks. Catherine Zeta-Jones was only there for four days. So it's all slight of hand and smoke and mirrors as to who's where and when. You know, two weeks after we've shot a scene, we'll shoot the other side of the room because so-and-so wasn't there. I had the same issue on Hairspray to a certain extent with the adults, but this one was a real math trick.

Does that have anything to do with why you're not doing another musical next?

My next movie is a much quieter, acting movie, so it should be a really beautiful respite for me from all the noise of making this movie. It's called This is Where I Leave You, from a book by the same title. It's about a dysfunctional family having to deal with each other in their house after their father dies. It's very funny, but it's also very emotional. That movie will have its own balancing act.

I take it you weren't really into the hard rock scene of the 1980s.

There was no way to escape it. It was just part of culture at that time. In the media, you were always just hearing about these arena guys throwing a f--ing couch out of a hotel window — and no consequences. Hotel rooms destroyed, rape and pillage, you know? It was all in good fun. It was the last time I remember the world feeling like there just weren't any consequences to your actions. I mean, other than in the gay community, it was nothing but casual sex with no AIDS. There was drug use up the wazoo with no rehab.

Without giving too much away, two male characters very surprisingly end up together in this film. Was that in the musical?

Yes, but this is the weird thing about that: It's in the musical, but when I was discussing it with the creators, they said, "No, no, no, they're not gay. They're just bros." And I said, "I know you created this, but you can't have two guys sing this song to each other and think that they're not gay." In the play they do ballet lifts. I was like, "How is that not gay?" They're like, "No, it's just the ultimate bro-mance." Honestly, I can't tell that story halfway. I have to go the full distance. It was a very odd moment for me because I couldn't understand how they didn't seem to have the same insight into what they had done. It was weird to me. I started laughing that I had another big man-on-man musical number, when I had it in Hairspray, too. I was like, "What am I doing? How does this keep popping up? And why do all my movies have a lot of hair?" They're big-wig shows.

Arquette making divorce official

David Arquette, after nearly two years of separation, has finally filed for divorce from Courteney Cox, according to TMZ.

The papers, however, list the official date of separation as December 31, 2011.

Arquette apparently signed the papers in March but held off on submitting them until Tuesday, which would have been the couple's 13th anniversary. Arquette cited irreconcilable differences in the filing, and though he's asking for joint legal and physical custody of their eight-year-old daughter, Coco, he has not asked for spousal or child support.

Arquette also plans to represent himself in the proceeding.

David Arquette

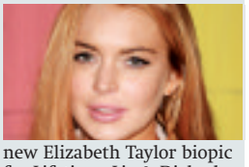
METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Lohan escapes a charge, earns a babysitter

THE WORD
Monica Weymouth
scene@metronews.ca



This Lindsay Lohan car crash is turning out to be especially hard to look away from.

Not only did the actress lie about who was driving, but now police have confiscated a plastic bottle full of alcohol from the rented Porsche's trunk, reports TMZ. Luckily, police have decided not to cite her with an open container violation, and she reportedly was not under the influence at the time of the crash. Lohan's employers, however, aren't willing to look the other way. The producers of her new Elizabeth Taylor biopic for Lifetime, Liz & Dick, decided to stop taking chances and hired her a driver.

"Lifetime will lose a ton of money if Lindsay doesn't finish filming Liz and Dick, plus they don't want anything to happen to her on their watch," a source tells PerezHilton.com. "So it was decided it would be cheaper to get her a driver. This is a make-or-break moment for Lindsay."

Nice start, guys. But we recommend adding a special ops team, a creative pharmacist, a lazy river and the fluffiest basket of kittens L.A. has to offer if you truly want to contain this girl.

Twitter

@rosemcgowan
I'd pay big money to watch Ken dolls in a fight club. Which is weird.

@goldiehawn
Off to Hungary with my Sis to discover our roots! Fun!!

@GeorgeMichael
Nothing to rant about, damn, must watch the news.....

@SteveMartinToGo
I just noticed a news item that says the Nobel Prize has shrunk from 1.4 million to 1.2. What's the point of going on?

DiCaprio coupling up with Heatherton

Leonardo DiCaprio appears to be serious about his latest girlfriend, Victoria's Secret model Erin Heatherton, whom he's been dating long-distance since December, according to Us Weekly.

Though he followed up filming The Great Gatsby in Australia by heading straight to New Orleans for Quentin Tarantino's Django Unchained, DiCaprio has been making more time for Heatherton lately, hitting the town in New York and being as public as they come.

They were spotted fawning over one another at the restaurant Candela earlier this week.

And just last week, the pair hit up New York hotspot the Darby.

"They showed up hand-in-hand," a source says. "They were acting like a couple all night."

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metro

Making a splash

After months of cloud and rain, you may feel self-conscious when showing off your sun-deprived body for the first time. However, covering up with a drab or unflattering swimsuit isn't going to help. Summer is your time to shine, so we picked the top eye-catching swimsuits that will ensure you make a jaw-dropping entrance, wherever you go.

ROMINA McGUINNESS
romina.mcguinness@metro.lu

Lazy beach day: Seafolly

Tea Rose bustier bra in coral & siren pant in coral
$85 & $72
seafolly.com

Beach date: Zimmermann

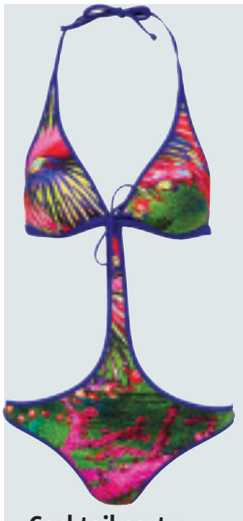
Savannah floral-print strapless swimsuit
top: $330
net-a-porter.com

Pool party: H&M

Turquoise/patterned bikini top and bottom
top: $4.95 & bottom: $4.95
hm.com

Girly get together: Topshop

Blue Rio Print One Piece swimsuit
$68
topshop.com



Cocktail party: ASOS

Bold Tropical Cut Out Suit
$52.19
asos.com

Buff and beach ready

RICHARD PECKETT
Metro World News in London

"I think sex sells for women also," says model Matthew Terry. Of course he would say that, being one of the current Calvin Klein Bold Underwear Adonises. You'll no doubt have borne witness to his seductive form in bright, 'bold' trunks stretched taut, abdominals gleaming, hair slicked back — the body perfect emissary of the global super brand.

The poster boy continues: "Especially if a girl sees an ad for men's underwear and she finds the model appealing, then maybe she'll buy the product for her boyfriend." I resist saying they want you and preferably without your pants on, seeing as he seems oblivious to the fact that he is the reason women swoon and men disdainfully stare at their turgid guts.

However, the body and look that we so admire with either lust or envy is the result of an Olympian-esque training regime (aside from the odd glass of wine) and you thought modeling was easy money. Tsk!

A healthy start

"I get up and exfoliate my back and neck and I wash with Panoxyl face wash — I use this twice daily because I have slightly oily skin." He is human after all. Terry adds, "For breakfast I eat an English muffin with peanut butter (high in calories but filled with the same monounsaturated fats as olive oil) followed by an apple or banana and a cup of decaffeinated green tea."

Warm weather workout for summer

"I try to hit all the muscle groups and recently I've been randomizing my workouts." In layman's terms that means short bursts of exercise per repetition, repeated ten times. Here's the drill: Bicep curls with 35 pound dumbbells; leg presses with a weight of 280 or 290 pounds to feel the burn; 20 leg raises to 90 degrees and down

The Pennsylvanian-born model says, "I drink plenty of water to avoid muscle cramps and I do the exercises for a maximum of two hours and a minimum of one hour." Bear in mind that Terry goes to the gym four times a week and might just "pump out 50 push ups on a day." Don't we all?

Hit the abs

"There are pieces of equipment that focus on the abdominals —personally I like the gym ball," admits the 20-year-old.

Here we go again: "Place your legs over the ball in a sit up position and get crunching. It hits your abdominals because of the angle and range at which you're working.

Try mixing it up with a twist to nail your oblique (side abdominals) muscles," he enthuses.

Top 2: Get body-conscious

Orlebar Brown setter

Short-length printed swim shorts
$265, mrporter.com

Calvin Klein

Bold trunks, $28
calvinkleininc.com

3 LIFE

Fashion Flash

Jeanne Beker honoured with award

After 27 years as host of FashionTelevision, Jeanne Beker has been presented with the 2012 Canadian Award of Distinction at this year's Banff World Media Festival. Previous winners of the award include Howie Mandel, Eric McCormack and Kim Cattrall. "It's sort of one of those awards where you sort of wonder, 'Does this mean I've arrived or does this mean it's time to leave?'" Beker said with a laugh during a recent interview. "It's really humbling," added the host of FashionTelevisionChannel, Canada's first and only 24-hour channel dedicated to fashion, beauty and design. "I'm really surprised in some ways just because I can't see the forest for the trees sometimes. I remember early days of my career where I had to fight hard for credibility because I didn't always have it."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the Web

Louvre Museum opens storied hallways to Ferragamo fashion show, making history

Everything old is new again

Saturated, over-dyed carpets create a modern look. These can add as much impact to the floors as art does to walls. Ryegrass Rug, $2,298 ANTHROPOLOGIE.COM

Faded carpets take on a sun-bleached look for a soft worn look. Ottoman Vintage #14330 Rug, $180. ECARPETGALLERY.COM

Carpet trends. Faded, chopped and dyed rugs make for some pretty artful floors

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

The look of handmade is everywhere in design and acts as a great juxtaposition to modern furnishings and art in a room.

Without exception, the floors are the most ignored part of any decor scheme. Why not add uniqueness to your space by adding a vintage rug?

The world is full of old, tattered, outdated carpets and what better way to recycle than to reinvent them into something hip and attractive?

The earth-friendly trend is to reuse and revamp worn and outdated rugs into something fresh and artful for our rooms.

Second-life rugs can be bleached for a sun-kissed romantic look or over-dyed with rich saturated Andy Warhol-style acidic colours. Damaged rugs can be cut into large pieces and sewn back together for a patchwork of pattern in a room.

Too bad the design world can't figure out how to reinvent the rust velour recliner.

Colour-matched remnants of kilim carpets create a handmade and casual look for the floor. Patchwork Kilim Rug, $464 HOMESAV.COM

Unroll a little art

Rug rules

If the room is in desperate need of colour or pattern, then choose a glass or Lucite coffee table to show off your rug.

Too much colour for your liking? A wooden table or large ottoman will help break it up.

Use a rug to define an area in a room or hallway. Two or three short runners can break up a long hallway space and shorten the overall look while a collection of layered rugs can be easily moved around for a variety of looks.

In small spaces try to match the tone (light and dark) of the rug to the floor; it visually makes the space look larger if both match.

Patterned carpets are great for high-traffic areas as they show less wear and tear than a solid colour.

Don't excuse using outdoor woven rugs inside to take the wear and tear of a busy space.

Sweet dreams

Interested in a three-way in your bed?

CHARLES THE BUTLER
askcharlesthebutler@metronews.ca
For more, visit charlesmacpherson.com

Hello Charles, What is the three-sheet bed-making process and why is this important? Why do we need three sheets? Curious

Hello Curious!
The three-sheet bed method is an older method that was used particularly when wool blankets were on the bed and these items were rough against the skin.

The third sheet covers the blanket and gets tucked in just like all of the other sheets on the bed. This third sheet made the bed softer and nicer so that you didn't feel the rough wool against your skin, and more importantly you didn't dirty the wool blanket, as washing it was very difficult.

If the bed had a duvet, it was then folded in a "three-fold" at the end of the bed and only used on very cold nights.

Although not common today, when you see a bed made in this fashion, and sleep in a bed made with three sheets, it is fabulous, luxurious and such a treat!

Lastly, often the "third sheet" had a family crest or initials in the middle of the sheet, which visually looks breathtaking.

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Plants pretty enough to eat

Gardening ideas. Sweet potatoes for decoration? Some flowers and veggies do double duty

Sweet potato vines decorating window boxes? Blueberry plants prized more for their foliage than their fruit?

Some flowers and vegetables are as appealing in the home garden as they are on the menu.

"We generally are interested in something to eat when we grow vegetables. In some cases, however, certain vegetable cultivars have been bred and selected for their ornamental characteristics rather than their food quality," said Dan Gill, a Louisiana State University AgCenter horticulturist.

Ornamental sweet potatoes are a prime example, he said.

"They've been really popular in the last 15 or 20 years," Gill said. "The early ones can easily cover five square feet. Plant a few in a container and they will fill it in."

Sweet potatoes are vining plants, members of the morning glory family, so they work equally well as low-growing bedding plants, as ground cover, on climbing arbours or trailing from hanging baskets, he said.

"They can be aggressive, however. Breeders are developing hybrids that are less vigorous and that play well in mixed beds with other plants," Gill said. "They do produce an edible crop but they're not that tasty. Gardeners like them more for their coloured foliage."

Blueberries are another great multi-use option, said Scott NeSmith, a research horticulturist at the University of Georgia-Griffin campus.

"We're seeking a variety of novel blueberry types, with (an) emphasis on berry colours, plant shape and form, fall colour, dwarfness and other interesting traits," he said. "We want consumers to surround themselves with flavourful beauty."

Just as there are ornamental fruits and vegetables, so, too, are there edible flowers and garden beauties that provide culinary treats.

Some nominees: Hostas (blooms), daylilies (tubers, buds), dandelions (flowers when picked young), marigolds ("poor man's saffron"), begonias.

Also there are sunflowers (buds), yucca (petals, fruit), lavender (blooms), nasturtium (leaves, petals).

A couple of cautions, however, about adding flowers to the menu: "Never use flowers for garnishing unless you know for certain they are edible," said Gill, adding, "Some flowers, like the plants that produce them, are poisonous."

Also, do not eat flowers that may have been sprayed with pesticides or picked along roadsides. Wash flowers thoroughly before plating up, and eat them in small quantities. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Start digging and eating

Appetizing ornamentals:

- **Go green.** Kale, Swiss chard, parsley, chives, rosemary, sage and mustards.
- **Spice it up.** Black peppers, chili, sweet peppers and hops. The latter "beautifully and vigorously cover an arbour or fence, and the young strings taste quite good," said Rose Marie Nichols McGee, owner of Nichols Garden Nursery in Albany, Ore.
- **Berry good ideas.** Elderberries and strawberries.
- **Vegetable medley.** Eggplant, squash, zucchini, cabbage, artichokes and beets.

Garden of goodness

"We want consumers to surround themselves with flavourful beauty."

Scott NeSmith, a research horticulturist at the University of Georgia-Griffin campus

Hostas are a great multi-use option for growers who like flowers that taste as good as they look. DEAN FOSDICK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Urban garden can be your inner-city oasis

Tips. Kate Gould tells you how to design your own piece of city bliss

RICHARD PECKETT
life@metronew.ca

The smog, congestion and the intensity of city life can leave you yearning for your own outdoor sanctuary. Of course, with space coming at a premium, a balcony, terrace, patio or a patch of garden is a small luxury.

It's a compact area that often goes to waste but award-winning garden designer Kate Gould has some innovative ways to create your own piece of urban Eden.

Small space, big impression

"The best small spaces are those that are bold and strong", says Gould. She adds, "In fact, super-sizing most things is a trick I often employ to avoid a scheme appearing bitty. Trying to achieve too much in a tiny area can result in a dilution of the overall effect. Pare down the design, assess the absolute minimum that you need and work from there." This amounts to: "Large format hard landscaping on the ground, unified boundaries and pots, planters or water features and sculpture all in scale with the furniture and floor tiles," explains the British designer.

Illuminating ideas

Lighting is particularly important if you want to create a more relaxed mood for some al fresco entertaining. "Highlight architectural plants or a feature wall to create a focal point. Secondly, lighting trees produces dramatic effects particularly on species with interesting bark", describes Gould. If you're looking for something enchanting, "look for interior lit planters which emit light and use candles to create a welcoming ambience for dinner parties."

Private and intimate

Resort feel: Lighting trees produces dramatic effects. CONTRIBUTED

Finding privacy in the city can be nigh on impossible, so designing an outdoor cocoon can seem like an attractive idea. "One option would be to extend garden fences with trellises and plant light, canopy trees like birch to create natural screening points. Alternatively, a large parasol over a table can create a certain amount of intimacy," suggests the expert.

Clutter buster

One of the major problems with compact spaces is finding the room to store outdoor accessories, particularly if you've got children's toys to keep out of sight. The solution: "Cube seating is ideal as the chairs will slot under the table when not in use. Built-in storage also works well. This generally consists of beach-style seat constructed into a wall with a wooden top that can be lifted to reveal a storage space inside", says Gould.

Ready to meet new meat? Say hello to cutting edge of carnivore world

The economy has prompted cost-conscious restaurant chefs to spearhead creative — and often less costly — new cuts of beef.

And when they do that, it usually doesn't take long for those cuts to move off the menu and into butcher and grocery shops.

To help get you grill with some of the newly popular cuts of beef, here are recipes for two meats on the cutting edge.

Ingredients

Start to finish: 45 minutes

- 2 tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 tbsp brown sugar
- Salt and ground black pepper
- 1/2 tsp garlic powder
- 1/2 tsp onion powder
- 1 tsp smoked paprika
- 1/2 tsp ground cumin
- 1/4 tsp cayenne
- Four 12-oz chuck roll steaks
- 1 large sweet onion, cut into 4 thick slices

1. In a large bowl, stir together the oil, brown sugar, 1 teaspoon salt, 1 teaspoon pepper, garlic powder, onion powder, smoked paprika, cumin and cayenne.

2. Place the steaks in the bowl and massage the mixture into the meat, making sure to coat all sides. Allow to sit at room temperature for 30 minutes.

3. Heat the grill to medium-high.

4. Season the onion slices with salt and pepper. Grill the onions without flipping them for 6 to 8 minutes, or until charred and tender. Grill the steaks for 4 to 5 minutes per side for medium-rare.

5. Remove the steaks from the heat and allow to rest for 8 to 10 minutes before serving. Serve with the grilled onions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chuck Roll Steaks with Barbecue Rub and Grilled Onions.

This recipe serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Book of the week

Rethink how you cook your meat

In Charred & Scruffed, chef Adam Perry Lang produces layers of flavour by using new techniques that range from roughing up meat and vegetables ("scruffing") to cooking directly on hot coals ("clinching") to constantly turning and moving the meat while cooking ("hot potato"). Meanwhile, his board dressings and finishing salts build upon delicious meat juices.

The new techniques result in recipes such as Leg of Lamb, Clinched-and-Planked Shrimp, High-Low Boneless Rib Eye, Scruffed Carbonara Potatoes, Crispy Moonshine Onion Rings and more. METRO

Fennel-Rubbed Denver Steaks with Blue Cheese

Ingredients

Start to finish: 30 minutes

- 1 tsp fennel seeds
- 4 Denver cut steaks, 3/4-inch thick (2 lbs total)
- Salt and ground black pepper
- 2 fennel bulbs, white parts only, cut into quarters
- Vegetable or canola oil
- Wedges of lemon
- 1/4 cup crumbled blue cheese

1. Heat the grill to medium-high.

2. In a spice grinder or using a mortar and pestle, grind the fennel seeds. Sprinkle the ground seeds over both sides of the steaks, then rub into the meat. Season the steaks with salt and pepper. Season the fennel bulb quarters with salt and black pepper.

3. Soak a crumpled paper towel with oil. Clasping the paper towel with tongs, oil the grates of the grill. Grill the fennel quarters for 10 minutes, turning once during cooking. Grill the steaks for 4 to 6 minutes per side for medium-rare. Remove the steaks from the heat and allow to rest for 8 to 10 minutes.

4. To serve, arrange 2 fennel quarters on each plate. Squeeze some fresh lemon juice over them, then top with a sprinkle of blue cheese. Serve with the steak. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro
FATHER'S DAY
Thursday, June 14, 2012

Focus on the family

ASTRID VAN DEN BROEK
For Metro

Spending quality time with dad during Father's Day is a simple, yet thoughtful, gesture from the family. DESIGN PICS/THINKSTOCK

You and the kids have breakfast in bed planned. Now what else should you do for Father's Day?

Here are some other ways to celebrate the big guy this Sunday.

Make it from the heart

"To truly celebrate my role as a father, I would love to be recognized for the things I do day in and day out," says Jim Lin, the blogger behind busydad.com. And that recognition could even be as small as a homemade card or drawing telling dad why he really is the best dad ever.

"But if you want to indulge me on my special day, all I really want to do is spend the day enjoying my family without the usual distractions that come with it, such as chores, cleaning, watching what I eat and so forth."

However, if you are out of preschool and have grown out of making those homemade cards for dad, little heartfelt gestures go a long way — think taking dad out to do something he loves, from going for coffee to a game of tennis on the courts.

Keep it family focused

The point is to make it special and involve the family, says Chris Read, the blogger who writes canadiandad.com. "While a lot of guys would love to golf with their buddies or ride in a limo in Vegas, the real truth is that we have all year to do that stuff and this day should be about family," says Read. "Maybe give dad an hour to himself at some point during the day and that will be more than enough. Though, this depends on the lifestyles of the family."

Sleep, sleep, sleep

Give dad the ultimate gift any father can appreciate.

"On the actual day, a sleep-in is always a great way to spoil dad. They're a lot less frequent nowadays," says Nick Cheeseman, a father and blogger with Canadad (ncheeseman.blogspot.ca).

"For me, a day of family fun such as an outing to the zoo would be best the way to spend it. Just avoid maybe big brunches with the whole extended family or some time to watch the big game on the couch."

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668-9274 Autosalon.ca

Hey sport, how about playing catch

PETER DOYLE
For Metro

With Father's Day fast approaching, the pressure is on to find a memorable gift. This year, instead of another tie or a bottle of single malt, find something that appeals to his inner sportsman.

The first step is to consider which sports interest your dad: Does he play recreational hockey? Is he a golfer, a cross-country skier, a runner? There is a set of equipment and apparel for each sport.

Once you have chosen a sport, you will need to learn if there is something he needs. A little research will help: Get in touch with one of his teammates or buddies (e.g., tennis or golf partner). While many men tend to buy what they want when they need it, most often settle for low- to medium-quality. This might give you an opportunity to go for the gold: Giving him something of a quality higher than he would buy for himself sends a clear message that you believe he is worth it.

If your dad is more fan than player, start by making a list of his favourite teams. Merchandising is the cash cow of professional sports and the array of team branded gear expands daily: From chairs and key chains to rubber ducks, and iPhone and iPod covers. Another option is to buy a television or Internet package so he can watch to his heart's content.

If your dad loves books, buy a large-format tome such as Sports Illustrated's The Baseball Book or The Hockey Book. If he is a serious reader, consider Stephen Brunt's Gretzky's Tears: Hockey, Canada and The Day Everything Changed, or Searching for Bobby Orr. A more sentimental choice is Fathers and Sons and Sports, a collection of short stories and reports from a long list of great writers.

If your father goes to the gym regularly, consider a good quality bag for sports gear or toiletries. A few other ideas: A bike computer or pedometer, or camping gear, such as a headlamp or comfortable camp chair.

The best gift of all, of course, is the gift of time. So take your dad to a game, watch a sports-themed movie together or just play some catch in the backyard.

Wordle.net lets children stretch their imagination by thinking of expressive words that best describe their dad. CONTRIBUTED

Crafts. Handmade gifts that are made from the heart

KELLY PUTTER
For Metro

Nothing says you care quite like a personalized gift, so encourage kids to create their own mini masterpieces this Father's Day.

A perennial favourite is this tasty barbecue rub, says Oakville elementary school teacher Nina March. For this Emeril Lagasse recipe, combine 2½ tablespoons paprika with 2 tablespoons each of salt and garlic powder. Add 1 tablespoon each of black pepper, onion powder, cayenne powder, oregano and thyme and mix thoroughly. Pour into spice jars and you are good to go.

"Dads seem to like this gift so much that they often come back asking for the recipe year after year," says March, who has taught for 17 years. "When we do Father's Day gifts it reflects what kids think is important to their dads."

Coupon books are an inspired way to tell dad you love him. March encourages her students to design coupons that promise to make dad's life easier in some small way. Good options might be giving dad two hours of quiet time so he can watch the baseball game or assuring him you won't fight with your sibling at the dinner table.

Tech-savvy kids might enjoy this craft that fashions words into fun and funky artwork. Wordle.net lets children stretch their creative juices by thinking of expressive words that best describe dad. They might use dad, hockey, play and funny in their depiction. The website then spits out the words in different fonts, sizes and layouts. Print a copy and glue it onto construction paper. Children can make a puzzle-piece frame on card stock to complete the project.

No father can resist a world's-best-dad trophy. You will need two foam coffee cups, a five-inch square box, masking tape, one gold chenille stem, gold craft paint, black construction paper, glue and a white paint pen.

Glue the bottoms of the cups together. Once dry, wrap a piece of tape around the middle of the cups. Tape the entire box with masking tape. Cut chenille stem in half and insert into the sides of one cup as trophy handles.

Paint the cups and box in gold. Write "Word's Best Dad" in white on black construction paper and glue to the front of the box. Apply glue onto the bottom of the cup that doesn't have the trophy handles. Press on top of box and dry completely.

Prison conditions

Mayweather denied request to serve jail time at home

Floyd Mayweather's demands that he be released from jail because the poor quality of the food and water has threatened his health were denied by a Las Vegas judge who says he should eat and drink what is being given to him behind bars.

Justice of the Peace Melissa Saragosa wrote in her late Wednesday decision that water has been made available to Mayweather around the clock and the only reason he isn't eating properly is because he refuses to eat the provided meals.

Prosecutor Lisa Luzaich scoffed at the complaints during a court hearing Tuesday.

"It's jail," Luzaich told the court. "Where did he think he was going? The Four Seasons?"

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Nationals complete sweep of Blue Jays

Stephen Strasburg won his fifth straight start, Tyler Moore hit the first two home runs of his career and the Washington Nationals beat the Toronto Blue Jays 6-2 Wednesday to complete a three-game sweep Wednesday.

The NL East-leading Nationals, who swept Boston at Fenway Park last weekend, outscored the Red Sox and Blue Jays 31-16.

Blue Jays starter Kyle Drabek (4-7) was forced to leave the game in the fifth after suffering an apparent injury. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New doping charges 'baseless': Armstrong

Cycling. Seven-time Tour de France winner had hoped his fight to be viewed as a clean athlete was won

Lance Armstrong attends the 2011 Pan-Massachusetts Challenge in August 2011 in Bourne, Mass. GAIL OSKIN/GETTY IMAGES

For Lance Armstrong, the doping allegations aren't going away. In fact, they're starting all over again.

The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency has filed formal charges against the seven-time Tour de France winner, threatening to strip him of his victories in the storied cycling race.

Armstrong, who forcefully denied the accusations, could face a lifetime ban from the sport if he is found to have used performance-enhancing drugs. The move by USADA immediately bans him from competing in triathlons, which he turned to after he retired from cycling last year.

Armstrong has been dogged by doping allegations since his first Tour victory in 1999, but had hoped his fight to be viewed as a clean champion was finally won after U.S. federal prosecutors closed a two-year criminal probe in February without bringing any charges. Armstrong has said the investigation took a heavy emotional toll and he was relieved when it ended.

But USADA officials insisted they would continue to pursue their own probe into Armstrong and his former teams and doctors, and notified him of the charges in a 15-page letter on Tuesday. Unlike federal prosecutors, USADA isn't burdened by proving a crime occurred, just that there was use of performance-enhancing drugs.

Quoted

"I have never doped, and, unlike many of my accusers, I have competed as an endurance athlete for 25 years with no spike in performance, passed more than 500 drug tests and never failed one."

Lance Armstrong in a statement dismissing the allegations.

In its letter, USADA said its investigation included evidence dating back to 1996. It also included the new charge that Armstrong blood samples taken in 2009 and 2010 are "fully consistent with blood manipulation including EPO use and/or blood transfusions." Armstrong came out of his first retirement to race in the Tour de France those two years.

Armstrong, who was in France while training for a triathlon, issued a statement dismissing the latest allegations "baseless" and "motivated by spite."

Even though he last won the Tour seven years ago, the 40-year-old Armstrong remains a popular — if polarizing — figure, partly because of his charity work for cancer patients.

The USADA letter, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, accuses Armstrong of using and promoting the use of the blood booster EPO, blood transfusions, testosterone, human growth hormone and anti-inflammatory steroids. The letter doesn't cite specific examples, but says the charges are based on evidence gathered in an investigation of Armstrong's teams, including interviews with witnesses who aren't named.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tennis. Nestor and Raonic to lead Canada's Olympic team to London

Olympic gold medallist Daniel Nestor and singles star Milos Raonic will lead Canada's tennis team at the London Olympics.

Nestor, Vasek Pospisil, Raonic and Aleksandra Wozniak were nominated for selection to Canada's Olympic team for London on Wednesday.

Nestor, who won Canada's only gold medal in tennis with Sebastien Lareau in 2000, will team up with Vancouver's Pospisil in doubles on the All England Club in Wimbledon, the Olympic venue for the sport.

Quoted

"My dream came true today. I'm very excited and I'm sure that I'll be feeling many emotions once I'm there."

Aleksandra Wozniak

Raonic, from Thornhill, Ont., and Wozniak, from Blainville, Que., will play singles.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Olympics

Feds support Munich tribute

The federal government has unanimously supported an international movement to honour the 11 Israelis slain at the 1972 Olympics. The International Olympic Committee has refused requests to hold a special tribute at the London Olympic opening ceremonies, 40 years after the Israeli athletes were killed by Palestinian gunmen at the Munich Games.

A motion in the House of Commons by Liberal MP Irwin Cotler to support the initiative for a special tribute was adopted unanimously Wednesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Diving. Canadian expects to compete in London despite head injury

Canadian diving star Alexandre Despatie is expected to compete at the Olympics in London despite a deep cut to his head from a diving accident.

The two-time Olympic silver medallist from Laval, Que., was training in Spain for this weekend's Grand Prix when he struck his head on the board full force Tuesday afternoon.

Despatie was performing an inward three-and-a-half at the time, during which his head spins back towards the board during rotation.

Alexandre Despatie GETTY IMAGES

"It was a really out-of-the-ordinary, really freak accident in his case," Dive Canada chief technical officer Mitch Geller said Wednesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 SPORTS

Quoted

"I can't think of any other course that really compares to it. Most places you try and get the fairways pretty flat when they're doing the design. But here, they seem to prefer the ball to land on one side of the fairway and run to the other."

Lee Westwood and other golfers preparing to play at Olympic Club for the U.S. Open have been debating whether the toughest stretch at Olympic was the opening six holes, or all 18 of them. About the only consensus was there won't be a repeat of the score Rory McIlroy posted last year at Congressional — a record-shattering 16-under 268.

"We want this event to be a real challenge."

USGA executive director Mike Davis.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

A bottle of unopened Budweiser was delivered to the Los Angeles Kings dressing room the night they lost the 1993 Stanley Cup in Montreal. Scan the code to find out how, 19 years later, a former athletic trainer finally got to drink that beer from the Stanley Cup.

German win has Netherlands facing early tourney exit

Nigel de Jong of the Netherlands tackles Mesut Ozil of Germany during a Euro 2012 Group B match on Wednesday in Kharkov, Ukraine. JOERN POLLEX/GETTY IMAGES

Euro 2012. Gomez nets two first-half goals as Germans sit atop tough Group B

Mario Gomez left the Netherlands on the brink of elimination from the European Championship, scoring both goals in Germany's 2-1 win Wednesday over one of its historic rivals.

Gomez scored both in the first half of one of the most anticipated showdowns of the tournament.

Robin van Persie pulled one back for the Netherlands in the second half but the defeat leaves the 2010 World Cup runner-up dangerously close to going home.

"Early on we had decent chances but the German goals came out of nowhere," Netherlands coach Bert van Marwijk said. "We defended badly. Our offence and defence did not connect.

Group B

Germany	Netherlands
2	1

"Germany really has an excellent team. It has power, creativity and scoring."

Germany, a three-time European champion, has six points from two wins but is still not sure of advancing from Group B, where three teams could end up with six points. Earlier, Portugal beat Denmark 3-2.

"We've taken a major step and opened the door to the quarter-finals," Germany coach Joachim Loew said. "Now we have our destiny in our own hands against Denmark."

The Netherlands, along with Germany, is considered one of the favourites but was drawn into a tough group. It now has lost both group games and needs to beat Portugal to have a hope. Germany will need only a draw against Denmark to win the group.

"The time just wouldn't pass, it remained standing (at the end of match)," said Gomez, who also scored the only goal in Germany's opening 1-0 win over Portugal. "They were pressing. It was close until the end but with Manuel Neuer in goal we can be a bit more relaxed.

"The expectations were great from our team even before the tournament and we've won six points against two classy teams, but it's a long way to the final."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"We had imagined all of this very differently."

Netherlands captain Mark van Bommel

Late goal propels Portugal to win

Underperforming Portugal finally got a win. Underperforming Cristiano Ronaldo wasn't much help.

After a miserable run of four games without a victory and only one goal scored, the Portuguese came through with an 87th-minute goal from substitute Silvestre Varela to beat Denmark 3-2 in Group B of the European Championship.

"Those of us who don't play from the start must be ready to join in at any time and deliver what the manager wants," said Varela, who replaced Raul Meireles in the 84th. "We should keep on working like this to achieve our aims."

All four teams in Group B can still advance to the quarter-finals. After Germany beat the Netherlands 2-1 in the late match, the three-time champions lead the group with six points while both Portugal and Denmark have three.

Varela scored the winner three minutes from the end, spinning on the ball and shooting from short range. It was Varela's first international goal in four appearances.

But the winning strike came late, and after several missed opportunities from Ronaldo.

"We should have killed the game off earlier," Portugal coach Paulo Bento said. "We had enough chances."

Silvestre Varela, right, of Portugal celebrates scoring in the 87th minute with Joao Moutinho during a Euro 2012 Group B match against Denmark on Wednesday in Lviv, Ukraine. ALEX LIVESEY/GETTY IMAGES

Portugal also got first-half goals from Pepe and Helder Postiga at the Lviv Arena, but the Danes replied with a pair of goals from Nicklas Bendtner. The Denmark striker found the target just before halftime and then made it 2-2 in the 80th.

"To lose in the last five minutes is very tough for us to take," Bendtner said. "We felt that one point at that stage was a very good result for us."

Ronaldo is Portugal's captain and easily its best player. And at Euro 2012, the team is looking to him to reproduce the kind of goal-rich form he showed at Real Madrid last season when he scored 60 goals.

But Ronaldo, facing a compact Danish defence that denied the Netherlands a goal in their opeing win, didn't even take a shot until the 18th minute. That one flew wide, and the forward threw his arms in the air and apparently cursed at a divot in the pitch.

"Ronaldo is one of the best players in the world and is a very good captain and a very good leader," Pepe said. "I'm sure he will score soon."

Ronaldo was the team's top scorer in qualifying for the tournament, racking up seven goals. But after the final whistle Wednesday, while Pepe raised his arms and celebrated, Ronaldo crouched alone on the field, staring quietly at the turf.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ambush marketing

Nicklas Bendtner could face UEFA action for ambush marketing after he scored his second goal in Denmark's 3-2 loss against Portugal. Bendtner's celebration Wednesday included lifting his shirt and dropping his shorts slightly to reveal a gambling firm's name on his underpants.

The bookmaker later tweeted a photograph claiming that Bendtner was wearing his lucky underwear.

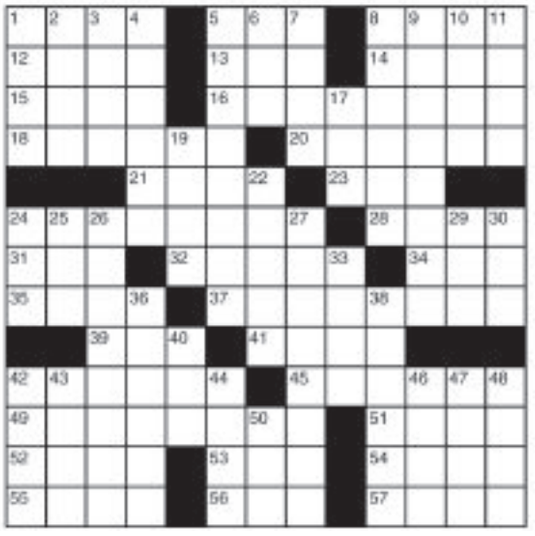
Crossword

Across

1 Venomous snakes
5 "The A-Team" actor
8 Borders
12 Beehive State
13 — de cologne
14 Sandwich cookie
15 Easy gait
16 Clever plan
18 Snow White's allies
20 Melee
21 Land map
23 Set of parts
24 Poker hand
28 Prevalent
31 Have bills
32 Prepare to drive
34 Neither's mate
35 Luxurious
37 Alien
39 Also
41 Opposed
42 Handy
45 Vessel for boiling
49 Noncommittal position
51 Teeny amount
52 Noble
53 Festive
54 Pressing need?
55 Argument
56 Type units
57 Albacore, e.g.

Down

1 "— Lang Syne"
2 Pack cargo
3 One of the Three Bears
4 Himalayan guide
5 Some notes
6 Snitch
7 Surf and —
8 Pompous talk
9 Putting up
10 Grand-scale prefix
11 Beans used in miso
17 Noah's boat
19 Move like a moth
22 Eighth Greek letter
24 Bribe
25 Pair
26 Roadside stop
27 Jailers
29 Enemy
30 Blunder
33 Liver spread
36 Capital of Tasmania
38 Fool
40 Ancient
42 Mail-truck abbr.
43 Dance lesson
44 Rim
46 From one end to t'other
47 "The — King"
48 Sicilian volcano
50 Fugitive's flight



Sudoku

	9	6	1					
7				8				9
				4				1
2		8			3		9	
6	5						8	7
	4		2			6		5
8				6				
5				1				3
					9	7	5	

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	1	5	9	8	7	4	3	2
8	3	7	4	6	2	1	5	9
2	4	9	1	3	5	7	6	8
5	7	6	2	1	8	9	4	3
1	9	8	6	4	3	5	2	7
4	2	3	5	7	9	6	8	1
7	8	1	3	5	4	2	9	6
3	5	2	7	9	6	8	1	4
9	6	4	8	2	1	3	7	5

Yesterday's Crossword

Cryptoquip

How to play
This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

TX IDJHNGIIO JPCOI YN YPSI ONDI WIXWIOZTKM OTJO NX ONEP, DTMZY YZIG QI EWTKSTKM QWIPS XHCTE?

Saturday's Cryptoquip: THE PASTOR ALWAYS SAVED SOME ROOM FOR WHAT HAD BECOME HIS FAVORITE DESSERT, PREACH MELBA.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals F

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Today 18°/9° Showers 40%
Friday 20°/11° Thunderstorms 40%
Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.
TWN incorporates MBC data

Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. You'll hear what you want to hear today and ignore anything that does not fit in with your preconceived ideas. But why limit your thinking?

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. Don't worry if you're not doing much on a practical level because this is a time for thinking and planning.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. This could be a stressful day, especially where relationships are concerned. Misunderstandings are likely but how you let them affect you is a matter of choice.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. When the pressure gets to be too much, you can get emotional. The planets warn that a small emotional explosion is likely today. But it's better than a big one later!

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. It's not like you to be emotionally distant but something has annoyed you and now you are keeping your distance from certain people. It'll pass.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. Try not to make promises you may not be able to keep today because if you let people down, they won't be too happy about it.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. Others are unlikely to react well if you are critical of their efforts today. They may be doing it wrong, but pointing out their faults and failings isn't likely to endear you to them.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. One moment you are too generous and the next you are too tough. It may be a reaction to other people's inconsistencies.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. Colleagues and employers will look kindly on you today, so if there is anything you want from them now would be a good time to ask.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. You seem concerned with personal relationships at the moment but until the Sun moves into your opposite sign on the 20th, you won't be able to change much for the better.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. If you are not enjoying what you are working on then it's pretty obvious you are working on the wrong thing.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. You may be eager to show the world what you can do but if you are smart you'll hold off for a while. The Sun moves in your favour next week.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption Contest

"Mom was right when she said ballet classes would be worth it one day." Iris

GERALD HERBERT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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